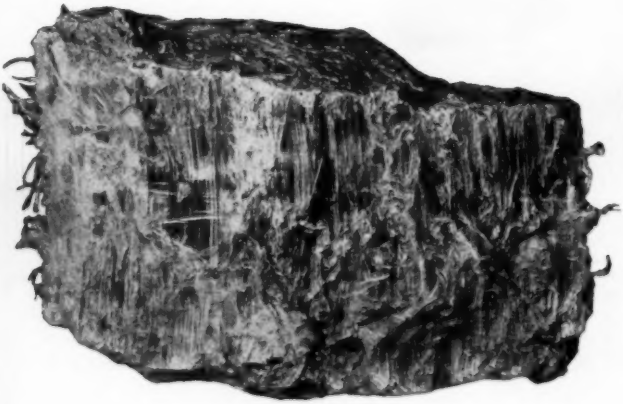
ASBESTOS



SEPTEMBER - 1943

"ASBESTOS"

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LATENT POWER

By the Editor

Philadelphia has been having an Ordnance Show, and in it are shown many of the implements of war, procedure in making some of the parts, demonstrations of assembling them, trophies captured overseas, and many other things connected with our battle for freedom.

All of these are intensely interesting; all are tremendously important, from the tiny screw which must be assembled with other parts to make an airplane instrument for instance, to a huge block-buster bomb which makes one wonder how a plane large enough and strong enough to carry it was ever designed.

The editor was most impressed, however, by the complicated machinery shown in two sections of a bomber. The knobs and handles, gauges and instruments in the sections were impressive from many angles, first because of the inventions themselves; the intricacy of the instruments which enables the bombers to do their deadly work; the production records achieved in the making of all the thousands of parts required, and the fitting of them together to make a marvelous whole; the co-ordination required to assemble the parts from various factories and shops thruout the country, and then line up transportation facilities and send them to the overseas bases where and when they are needed. All those things pass the imagination of us ordinary mortals who write about them.

But there is another angle which is even more marvelous. As I looked at the various instruments and tried to get some idea of the manner in which they worked, I thought, not so much of the work and aptitude required for their making, nor of the deadly work they would do and so bring victory sooner, but of the skill and knowledge required by those who operate them. And this skill and knowledge has been acquired by hundreds of our men in the service in a few months, in many cases by men who had practically no previous

knowledge of machinery, nor any idea that they had hidden within themselves the ability to learn the operation of such complicated machines.

There must be thousands of men in the service who, if left to their own devices would have settled down to a prosaic future, working at a service station, clerking in an office, any one of hundreds of routine jobs taken in order to provide for themselves and families. Instead they are flying over land and sea, operating the most complicated of mechanisms with a precision which makes the air forces of the United Nations a deadly menace to European cities and Japanese sea bases.

How did they ever acquire, in such an incredibly short time, this marvelous skill!

One boy of our acquaintance graduated from high school in a small village with only fair marks and was leading a rather aimless life in a prosaic job. Then came along the draft and he landed in a signal corps school. He was made to study; to acquire a proficiency in a field of which he knew absolutely nothing. He made good and is now overseas, but the point of the story is that he himself was amazed at the knowledge which he acquired. He told his friends that he had learned more in the few weeks he had taken the course in the army than he had in the whole previous twelve years spent in public school.

Instance after instance of this kind could be recited. Is it any wonder that the releasing of this latent power, locked within the people of a nation, has performed miracles—of invention, of production, of performance! It is far more deadly than the bombs that some of the boys release.

The War Production Board set high schedules for production, of airplanes, ships, tanks and other implements of war, with the idea that in the effort to achieve the high goals, at least a satisfactory schedule would be attained. They were astounded when their high schedules were not only met but in many cases surpassed by a good margin.

Our enemies cannot yet conceive how we have

caught up to their rate of production in such a short time. They are confounded by the rate of speed with which we turn out planes, ships, tanks; by the new instruments, new weapons, improvements on old ones, which we invent.

How do we do it? Not even we ourselves know. The power was there, dormant in our boys and girls, young men and women, older men and women—it only needed an emergency, a necessity, to bring it to the surface.

Latent power, more deadly than any bomb yet produced—it performs miracles—it will win the war!

KEEP PRICES DOWN

Control of inflation is, ultimately, in the hands of the public, which is why magazine publishers have been asked to especially stress the subject during the next few months.

Basically there are seven things listed which the public is urged to do in order to keep prices down.

They are:

Buy only what you need.
Check ceiling prices.
Support higher taxes.
Pay off old debts.
Don't ask for higher salary.
Save money.
Buy war bonds.

We urge our readers to support such a program, not only yourselves but by impressing the necessity of it on your employees. If you issue a house organ to employees the message can be included there; if not, a bulletin to your employees will be an effective means of getting the message across.

The slogan of the campaign is "Keep Prices Down! Use it up—Wear it out—Make it do—Or do without."

It is, of course, impossible to count on a 100% response to such an appeal—but if even 50% of the people of our nation would go along on such a program it would help tremendously.

CHEESE MAKING

And the Odd Functions ot Asbestos

By F. R. Cozzens

An oustanding achievement brought about by the present conflict is the American manufacture of rare and exotic cheeses, which were formerly imported from Europe. Import value of the various types of foreign cheese in peacetime amounted to more than $10,000,000 per year.

When war closed the sea lanes, this commodity disappeared rapidly from American tables, and it was generally believed that the omission would be of long duration because manufacturing processes were zealously guarded, and had never been duplicated successfully in other than foreign lands.

American chemists, however, had been busy on this problem for a number of years. By 1942, tests had passed far beyond the experimental stage, and at the present rate of progress it is now safe to assume that fully two-thirds of the ten million dollars will remain on these shores when the war is over. Not only have the most exclusive brands of foreign cheese been duplicated on a commercial scale, but from cultures brought out in the process, distinct American types can be, and are being made by the smaller concerns and even by individuals, to suit specific needs and markets. To utilize these cultures it has been necessary to match modern engineering skill against laws of Nature. One such material especially well fitted for this unique job is Asbestos, which is used in rather odd ways in cheese making.

The rare types of European cheese, as is generally known, are aged or ripened in caves, sometimes over a period of years, the quality and flavor being due to the action of certain kinds of fungi or mold. To encourage the growth of these essential molds, temperature must be maintained at 45 to 60 degrees F., with dense humidity, and a very meagre circulation of air. There are very

few caverns in our own country which meet these natural requirements, so after making a careful study of foreign subterranean "factories," American chemists undertook the task of building artificial "caves".

The man-made caves are, in reality, concrete rooms insulated with cork, over which is placed a layer of asbestos cloth. On many of the smaller "caves" insulation is carried out by placing one to three layers of asbestos cloth or felt directly over the concrete. Air circulation is controlled by ventilators, placed in the walls near the floor and in the ceiling. When temperature and humidity have been regulated to requirements, cultures, or spores, of the fungi or mold (which have been previously incubated) are placed on trays within the room, to propagate. The trays, or "seed-beds", used for introducing the mold are generally filled with asbestos fibre over which the spore-cells are sprinkled. The mold spores are allowed to propagate or multiply in the room for a period of twenty-four to thirty-six hours, after which the cheese curds are brought in, and the ripening process begins. The cheeses are allowed to ripen in this environment for a period of three to six months (depending on quality desired). New cheese curds are introduced as finished ones are taken out, so that the cave remains constantly in use. Mold spores continue to thrive and multiply as long as atmospheric conditions remain favorable.

The initial use of asbestos in insulating cheese-caves is for more effective control of temperature and humidity, but especially because an asbestos surface is most receptive to spore growth. Asbestos is not changed chemically by the constant humidity, and does not decay, either of which conditions would result in the destruction of the mold spores. Because of this very important fact, many different types of mold and fungi are bred in laboratories and introduced into different caves so as to produce distinct and original cheese flavors. Because of its economy, small private concerns and individuals are using asbestos cloth, felt, and asbestos insulation board

for insulating cellars and pits, where cheese is being conditioned. Considerable success is also being obtained by wrapping fresh cheese curds in heavy grade asbestos paper, the inner surface of which has been inoculated with a certain type of mold spore.

By these, and other closely allied processes, foreign cheeses have been duplicated successfully, and new and original types are being introduced. Successes already achieved in cheese and kindred milk products have opened the way to vast benefits to manufacturers and dairymen when world conditions again become stabilized. This work is now being conducted over a wide section of the country, and in practically every phase of it, asbestos materials are doing full duty in helping make the progress possible.

NEW DEPOSITS OF ASBESTOS

An asbestos deposit described as "promising" has been reported as located near Yaruma, State of Antioquia, Colombia, South America. There are very few other references on record of occurrences of asbestos in Colombia. In 1918 there is on record a shipment of 344 kilograms of asbestos, valued at $50, from that country, and later it was reported that asbestos occurs in San Bernardo, Department of Narino.

Another recently reported deposit is located in the Kabuk River region of Northwestern Alaska. The deposit is said to be small, but a sample of the material in our possession shows a long and fairly strong, yellow chrysotile. The color may be due to discoloration, as the sample was taken from near the surface of the deposit.

. . . —

The Third War Loan Drive, which started September 9th, is the largest financing program in world history. Fifteen billions are to be obtained entirely from non-banking sources.

Plan to do your share in this latest drive, and so stand squarely behind our boys at the front.

THE BLUE ROCK ASBESTOS MINE

Deposit of Anthophyllite in Yancey Co., North Carolina

A new asbestos deposit of mass fibre Anthophyllite has been opened up on a commercial scale within the past year. This property is known as the Blue Rock Mine and is operated by Industrial Minerals Corporation, Asheville, N. C., of which G. W. Kunstman, Jr., is President.

The Blue Rock Mine is located on the South Toe River in Yancey County, N. C., and includes considerable acreage. The known asbestos deposit rises at an angle of 30 to 40 degrees from the Toe River to a pinnacle nearly 200 feet above. Observations from actual mining, and verified by U. S. Geological Survey of April, 1943, shows length of over 400 feet, with an obvious depth above water of nearly 200 feet. As there is a notable line of cleavage between the mass asbestos deposit and the horn-blende formation at one end and the alaskitic granite formation at the other end, there is plain evidence of an intrusion formation which consequently may prevail to considerable additional depth, altho core drilling has not yet been attempted.

While considerable buff colored ore has been encountered in the exposed areas and among some fracture zones, the main body of the deposit is a gray green compact Anthophyllite in massive formation with fibre lengths ranging from one-quarter inch to nearly four inches.

Estimates of available supply, above water, range around 1,000,000 tons. Analyses of material from this mine, as reported by reputable chemists, run approximately as follows and are said to be unusually uniform:

Silica	54.6%
Magnesia Oxide	31.5%
Sulphur	.05%
Phosphorus	.01%
Ferric Oxide (Soluble)	.38%
Ferrous Oxide (Insoluble)	8.50%
Alumina, Calcium, Water, etc	4.50%

Large quantities of the material have been shipped for use in welding rod coatings; fibre of this quality has been

Part of original Quarry of the Blue Rock Asbestos Mine in March 1943

found especially desirable for uses in which extreme conditions of heat, or electrical resistance, are encountered.

The company is now preparing to process the ore to a number of standard grades for use in plastics, wallboards, insulation and accoustical products, roofing and paving materials, paints, cements and refractories, chemical filters and a number of other non-spinning uses to which these fibres, because of their chemical content, are particularly well suited.

Operations so far have been conducted as an open quarry with two working levels already developed. Tipples or chutes gather the material at each level; from there it is conducted to the base of operations for processing or shipping.

The company has constructed a bridge 150 feet in length across the Toe River, and has also built almost a mile of new roadway, to make the property accessible to the main line of the Clinchfield railroad, five miles distant.

. . . —

Earnestness is enthusiasm tempered by reason.

AMHERST COLLEGE

New Tunnel Steam Lines are Insulated with 85% Magnesia

An interesting application of 85% Magnesia Insulation for piping is to be seen in the new tunnel steam lines at Amherst College, Amherst, Mass., which traverse the large campus to heat and supply process steam and hot water for 32 buildings, scattered over a wide area.

The tunnel built to date on the campus consists of a run of about 1,000 feet from the central heating plant to the Infirmary and another run of approximately the same length from the Infirmary to Pratt Museum, supplying the Chemical building and Valentine Hall commons and dormitory on the way. The lines run under these buildings to a dead end under Valentine Hall, with provision for extension to other new buildings after the war. It is hoped by the college authorities to extend this tunnel system in a circuit around the campus, feeding all campus buildings and forming a junction with the present tunnel at the central heating plant. At present buildings not heated from the tunnel mains are heated by means of conduit lines of older date. Insulation of the tunnel mains and returns is double thick 85% Magnesia of Johns-Manville manufacture, applied by the Johnson Asbestos Company of Springfield, Mass., under a sub-contract from the Holyoke Valve & Hydrant Company, which had the contract for installation of the tunnel mains.

In these tunnels are also carried high tension cable, class bell lines and telephone wires. The tunnels are five feet wide by six and a quarter feet high, in the clear, with floor, ceiling and side walls of reinforced concrete. Expansion joints of the steam mains are of crimped copper every seventy-two feet. The top of the tunnels averages three feet underground and is reinforced sufficiently to carry highway traffic where it crosses college and main highways. There are manholes in the tunnel top at intervals to facilitate repair work and

pipe renewal and the interior is lighted by electricity.

One of the most interesting buildings at Amherst College is the beautiful new Valentine Hall, named for Samuel H. Valentine, Class of '66, a benefactor of the college. This building cost $250,000 and has in its basement a $50,000 kitchen to serve three student dining rooms, each seating 600 at one time. The upper floors of the building are student dormitory suites of two rooms each.

Amherst College is a relatively small institution of the so-called New England type, offering a four year course of liberal arts leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree. It was the alma mater of the late President Calvin Coolidge, and has graduated some distinguished citizens. Its normal enrollment in late years has been between 800 and 850, with a faculty of eighty. It is well endowed and possesses one of the most beautiful campuses in New England. It was founded over a hundred years ago, being opened in 1821 with one building, but the charter of the college was not obtained until 1825.

. . . —

The Flintkote Company now call their salesmen "construction consultants," which indicates the change in salesmen's status during this war period. Many salesmen have nothing tangible to sell, but they are doing a good job of service to their old customers or prospective ones. Call a salesman when you have a roofing, insulation or other problem to solve.

THE LOST ASBESTOS MINE

A New Legend

Most of us are familiar with the various legends and stories handed down from early times and concerning the discovery or use of asbestos.

There is the one of Charlemagne's Table Cloth, The Royal Society and the Asbestos Handkerchief, the Lumberman and his Asbestos Socks, Benjamin Franklin's Purse, The Pearl Necklace and the Asbestos Gloves, and many others.

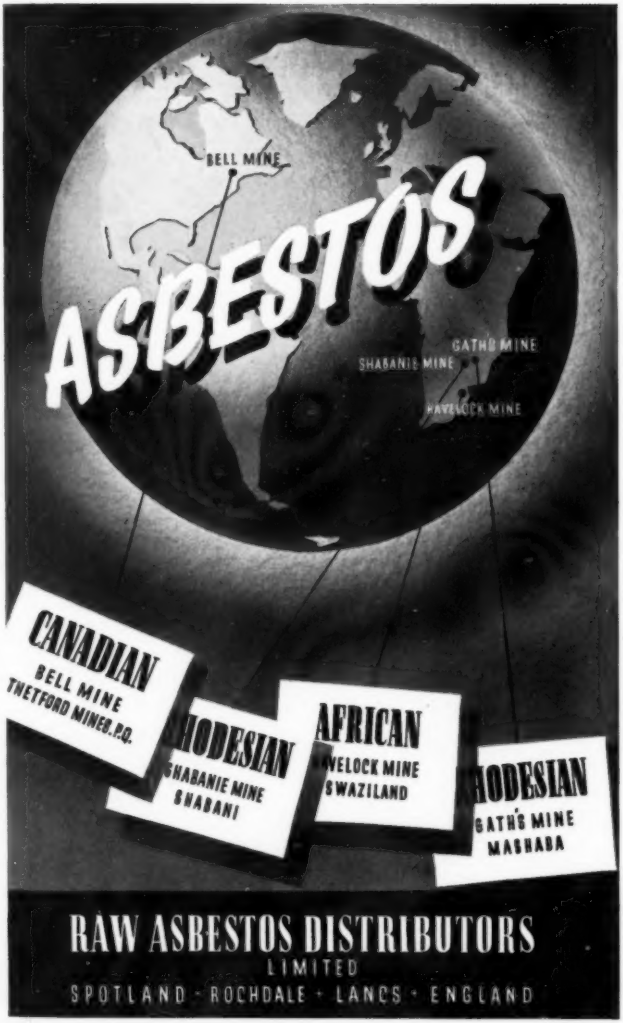
Recently we have come across a new one—new at least to us—The Lost Asbestos Mine.

The tale is told by R. C. Rowe, Editor, Canadian Mining Journal, in the July 1943 issue of that publication, and the story is given below just as Mr. Rowe tells it.

A farmer on the Gatineau River[1] was in the hills back of his land looking for deer after the first snow. He came upon fresh bear tracks and proceeded to follow them, just as the average man would. The trail led him a long, fruitless way, and when he decided to give up the chase and return home, he found that he was fairly well lost. The country he was in was quite strange to him and while he was cogitating the matter, without any particular concern because he could follow his own trail back to the country he knew, he noticed that some of the ash trees in the rather steep ravine where he had stopped, were covered on one side with a white fluffy material. As he told it later, it looked as tho someone had dropped a bale of cotton waste somewhere close at hand and the wind blowing down the gully had swirled the fibres with it "and plastered the trees with them."

The farmer was interested, not because he had any knowledge of minerals, but simply from curiosity, and so he climbed up the gully and followed it to where it reached the top of the ridge. Here on a shelf of rock he found the source of the fluffy material in an exposure of fibrous

[1]The Gatineau River is in the western part of the Province of Quebec emptying into the Ottawa River opposite to the City of Ottawa, quite distant therefore from Thetford Mines.


BELL MINE
ASBESTOS
GATHS MINE
SHABANIE MINE
HAVELOCK MINE
CANADIAN
BELL MINE
THETFORD MINES P.Q.
RHODESIAN
SHABANIE MINE
SHABANI
AFRICAN
HAVELOCK MINE
SWAZILAND
RHODESIAN
GATH'S MINE
MASHABA
RAW ASBESTOS DISTRIBUTORS
LIMITED
SPOTLAND · ROCHDALE · LANCS · ENGLAND

Every type of raw Asbestos carried in stock: Arizona • Australian • Bolivian • Canadian • C• Cyprus
Rhodesian • Russian • South African Blue and Yellow. Manufacturers of Asbestos Cement Cyprus
Siding • Creators and exclusive manufacturers of New Era Insulation, lightest rigid insulat all tem

This advertisement appeared in the February 1943 issue of "FORTUNE"

...IANO ASBESTOS?

Good reason for their consternation. Not a single ton of Asbestos suitable for war purposes is produced in Germany, Italy, or Japan. Nor is any produced in any of the countries which they have over-run. And Asbestos is vital in this war —for tanks and trucks, ships and planes.

Now call the roll of the countries that do produce Asbestos—Australia, Bolivia, Canada, Cyprus, India, Rhodesia, Russia, South Africa. All of them are anti-Axis!

Think what a great advantage this is to the United Nations. Think what it means to the United States itself, for we produce only five per cent of the Asbestos we need. We must therefore count on these other countries for the balance of our requirements.

War has increased our needs many times. It has also increased the difficulties of production and transportation. But in spite of these hardships, our staunch allies continue to send the needed quantities of this precious mineral.

As the only company which for twenty-five years has imported and processed every known type of Asbestos from all these countries, Asbestos Limited Inc. offers a unique service. Our long and specialized experience is at the service of America's war industries, for Victory. Your inquiries are invited.

SINCE TIME BEGAN
ASBESTOS
UNTIL TIME ENDS

TRADE MARK REGISTERED

...ian • C... Cyprus • Indian
...ement ... Cyprus Asbestos
...insulat... all temperatures.

...NE" ma...

ASBESTOS LIMITED IN...

8 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.
JOHANNESBURG, S. A. • WORKS: MILLINGTON, N. J.

rock. The disintegration of fibre was apparently going on among the loose rocks lying at the foot of the low ledge. His interest carried him to the point where he broke off some pieces of the fibre from the loose rocks with the stock of his rifle, and then, as the autumn day was fast shortening, he back-tracked for home.

For a short time the old rock specimens were objects of curiosity to the farmer and his neighbors, and then, as time passed, the curiosity died, the interest waned in the face of hard work on a hill farm, and there it might have forever rested had not a geologist from the Geological Survey come into the locality. Somewhere he heard of the queer specimens that had interested the community a year or two before, and he went to see the farmer who had found them. After a good deal of searching, a piece of the rock was brought to light and, of course, was immediately identified by the geologist as asbestos of particularly good quality and length. "Is it worth anything?" asked the farmer. "Yes," said the geologist, "if there is any quantity of it and if you can find it again." "Sure I can find it," replied the farmer, and straightway went looking for it, but he did not find it. The years passed and the farmer grew old, but he never stopped looking for the gully with its spectral trees and its low ledge that were so firmly printed upon his mind. It eluded him and he never found it.

Finally he died and he and his search became part of the folk-lore of the country. Some day the mine may be found, but until it is, the story will be another Legend of Asbestos.

. . . —

An asbestos-cement plant, the first in Colombia, South America, has been put into operation near the Muna River Dam, 25 kilometers from Bogota, owned by Eternit Colombiana, South America. We are trying to obtain further information.

MARKET CONDITIONS

GENERAL BUSINESS

On the whole, general business outside of direct war work has held up better than had been feared. Certain industries, while not working directly on war contracts of any sort, have been declared essential because it was found practically impossible to get along without them and at the same time expect war production to keep up to schedule.

Volume of retail business in civilian goods has also kept ahead of expectations, this because sales have been made from inventories built up to high levels months ago; also responsible is the ingenuity of manufacturers in using available materials, working out substitutions and finding labor to replace that going to war work and into the services.

Improvement in shipping conditions has contributed its share to making certain civilian goods available. This is especially true in the case of coffee, sugar and burlap. Larger imports of burlap, which are expected to eventuate shortly, will release to other uses capacity in the textile mills which has been tied up with the manufacture of cotton bagging. This is just one instance—it is likely that more will follow.

Manpower shortage is the most important factor which will seriously affect production of civilian goods in the future. Here again the ingenuity of employers in finding workers and training them in skilled or semi-skilled jobs is alleviating the condition to some extent. The old saw about necessity being the mother of invention is certainly being worked to a fare-thee-well in these days.

As to war production, in spite of the somewhat adverse effect the good news from all battle fronts is having on war production, in spite of absenteeism, manpower shortage and slowdowns in the making of certain parts because of changes in design, July war production was 5% higher than June.

ASBESTOS - RAW MATERIAL

There is little change in this market since last month. Shortage of Canadian Crudes and Spinning grades still

exists, and because of the tremendous demand in those longer grades, a natural over production of the short grades results.

The inventories of Canadian spinning fibres in the hands of manufacturers is slowly decreasing and we are told a move may be made to stabilize a safe working inventory in the hands of each manufacturer to cover the winter uncertainties.

Shipments from Africa are coming thru very well, with good prospects for future delivery of the contracted amounts. A slight increase has been made in the amount of Crocidolite available to the United States. The increased arrivals of Amosite are materially helping the shortage that previously existed in that variety.

Thought is being given by some buyers of asbestos to post-war prices and conditions. If the war comes to an end within the next twelve months, how would demand, production and prices be affected?

A concensus of opinion at present seems to be that demand would not decrease to any extent as Europe will again be in the market for large tonnages during the reconstruction period after the war is over. This is particularly true of the shingle grades. Another factor is the new plants now in operation in the Latin-American countries, whose demands are constantly increasing. These did not exist previous to the war.

As to prices, even if production is decreased, it is regarded as unlikely that the mines would reduce prices, as no additional business would result from such a move.

ASBESTOS-MANUFACTURED GOODS

Textiles. Demand is carrying on at the high levels of the past six months and is greater than production. Lack of labor is holding production down. Allocation is, of course the dominating factor in delivery. Prices naturally are firm.

Brake Lining. The total sales of brake lining for July increased over those for July 1942 and June 1943; in the export field there was a decrease from last July and an increase over June 1943.

Woven Brake Lining is almost out of the picture due

to Governmental restrictions on the use of asbestos fabric. Demand on molded brake lining and blocks, however, continues to increase because of ordnance requirements. Distributor demand is surprisingly steady. Future trend in this market naturally depends on war conditions and the action of the various government agencies in releasing motor vehicles to the civilian, and needed agricultural equipment to the farmer.

Asbestos Paper. Demand in this commodity is reported as steady, with tendency to increase during the balance of the year. Release of boiler, radiator and air conditioning equipment by WPB should stimulate jobber purchases. Prices are also reported as steady.

Asbestos Millboard. Since we have received two almost directly opposite opinions on this market, we shall quote both of them. One says that demand for millboard from Government contractors and agencies is not as heavy as it was formerly. The other states that present construction work, shipbuilding, etc., is keeping this business active, and the use of millboard in substitution for sheet metal in air conditioning is even stimulating demand to some extent. Both sources agree that prices are quite firm.

Insulation—Low Pressure. August showed an unusual decline in this market, but some manufacturers state that new construction now in plan state indicates continual steady demand for the balance of the year. Prices are said to be steady.

Insulation—High Pressure. There appears to be no tapering off in the demand for High Pressure Insulation. Shipbuilding requirements are being held at a high level and there appears to be a steadily increasing backlog of requirement for High Pressure Insulation for industrial purposes that will undoubtedly afford great possibilities when other demand slows down. It is believed that the 1944 ship program will cause demand in high pressure insulation to be as high next year as in this present one. Production is somewhat affected by the manpower situation. Prices are firm.

Asbestos-Cement Products. As is probably the case

with most building materials, shipments of asbestos-cement shingles, sidings, wallboards and corrugated sheets are being made from one to two months after order is placed, because of strong demand and a severe shortage of production on account of the manpower situation. It is not likely that this situation will improve for some time to come, and its effect in limiting production is to give an exaggerated impression of limited supply.

With production falling off steadily, demand will probably consume the production which is available.

Corrugated demand during the last three months for large, new construction has exceeded expectations in certain localities. It is believed, however, that this demand will fall off in the next six months.

The above comments are made by men in close touch with the market in the various commodities. Opinions from any and all readers are welcome.

. . . —

After reading our story in August "ASBESTOS" concerning the "Big Inch" Pipe Line, J. C. Johnston, President of the Atlas Asbestos Company, North Wales, writes us that the line traverses his farm, "Lockerbie," for nearly half a mile; in fact, it almost passes his front door. The farm is located in Towamencin Township, about five miles from North Wales. Fortunately the breaks which occurred in the line were at some distance from his property. Does anyone else in the asbestos Industry own property thru which the "Big Inch" passes?

. . . —

A new aircraft plant has saved 30,000 tons of steel, copper and aluminum by the use of asbestos-cement materials. Asbestos siding has been used instead of masonry and asbestos-cement pipe to replace metal pipe in the water and process line.

. . . —

Today's best should be tomorrow's starting point.

CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

CELEBRATE FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Fire Prevention Week will be celebrated this year from October 3rd to 9th. This offers a fine opportunity for distributors and applicators of asbestos products, such as insulation, roofing and siding, to stress the importance of fireproof materials when remodeling a house or other building.

Asbestos-cement board can be used for such a multitude of purposes that a little thought and footwork will result in sales that can add up to a very satisfactory figure, even if the individual sales are small. This is especially true if your town is near a farming district—there are innumerable places on a farm for asbestos-cement board, and no one is more sensitive to the need for fireproofing than the farmer.

While it has always been important to *prevent* fires, at the present time when properties destroyed by fire cannot be replaced or rebuilt, fire prevention becomes a vital necessity.

Very likely the great Chicago fire (of which Fire Prevention Week is the anniversary) might never have occurred had the stable where, according to popular legend, the cow kicked over the lantern, been adequately fireproofed.

BUILDING

Contracts were let in July for 21,924 new family dwelling units in the 37 eastern states, according to F. W. Dodge Corporation. This figure compares with 15,750 in the preceding month and 18,420 in July 1942. Total residential building, including military barracks and accommodations for single men in temporary type dormitories in war production centers, amounted to $71,836,000 in July, $61,508,000 in June and $127,382,000 in July 1942.

Non-residential building, with a total value of $61,840,000, ran 35 per cent below June and 87 per cent behind July a year ago when manufacturing plant contract-letting was at its height. Of the $489,066,000 recorded in July 1942, 82 per cent was for manufacturing plants and closely related types of projects.

Heavy engineering work in July, amounting to $49,985,000 also declined from the $73,257,000 registered in the preceding month and from the high figure of $327,348,000 attained in July last year.

During the first seven months this year, total construction contracts amounted to $2,034,933,000. This is a decline of 56 per cent from the corresponding period 1942.

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

BIRTHDAYS

W. N. Bolster, President and Treasurer, General Insulation Company, Boston, Mass., September 20.

J. W. Ledeboer, Second Vice President, Keasbey & Mattison Company, Ambler, Pa., September 20.

C. Stanley Morgan, Detroit, Mich., September 25.

R. H. Temple, Treasurer, Thermoid Company, Trenton, N. J., September 25.

W. J. Moeller, Vice President, Philip Carey Mfg. Company, Lockland, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 26.

E. R. Teubner, Jr., President and Treasurer, Philadelphia Asbestos Co., Philadelphia, Pa., September 26.

O. H. Cilley, Asst. General Manager, United States Asbestos Division, Manheim, Pa., September 27.

W. H. Fehrs, Plant Manager, Union Asbestos & Rubber Co., Cicero, Ill., September 28.

J. M. High, Ruberoid Co., New York City, N. Y., September 28.

O. P. Hennig, President, Hennig Asbestos & Packing Co., Chicago, Ill., October 3.

John H. Victor, President, Victor Mfg. & Gasket Co., Chicago, Ill., October 9.

Russell E. Crawford, Secretary, Ehret Magnesia Mfg. Company, October 9.

A. L. Penhale, Sales Manager, Asbestos Corporation Limited, Thetford Mines, P. Q., Canada, October 11.

R. Tomlinson, President, Pacific Asbestos Supply Co., Portland, Ore., October 12.

W. W. F. Shepherd, Chairman of the Board, Keasbey & Mattison Co., Ambler, Pa., October 13.

Thomas D. Stone, President, Stone Industrial Equipment Co., Springfield, Mass., October 14.

R. H. Shainwald, President, Plant Rubber & Asbestos Works, San Francisco, Calif., October 15.

David E. Kelley, President, Kelley Asbestos Products Co., Kansas City, Mo., October 16.

Thomas Lehon, Vice President & General Manager, The Lehon Co., Chicago, Ill., October 17.

Wm. F. Reed, President and Treasurer, Asbestos Distributors, Inc., Port Chester, N. Y., October 17.

Congratulations to all these gentlemen on the occasion of their birthdays.

REID HAYDEN, OF BALTIMORE SPONSORS LIBERTY SHIP

Reid Hayden, Incorporated, Baltimore, Maryland, approved contractor for Johns-Manville Corporation, were accorded the privilege on June 29th of sponsoring the S. S. "Robert Erskine", the 159th Liberty Ship launched by the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard, Inc., to date.

The ship was christened by Mrs. E. L. Arthur, wife of a union employee of Reid Hayden, following appropriate ceremonies and a luncheon given by Bethlehem-Fairfield for the launching party.

Robert Erskine, in whose honor the ship was named, was an eighteenth century geographer who served as Surveyor General to Washington during the Revolution.

Beginning with the "Patrick Henry", the first ship of the Liberty line to be placed in service, in December 1941, Reid Hayden has furnished and installed insulation on 88 Liberty Ships and 15 tank carriers in the Bethlehem Fairfield Yard. Since Pearl Harbor, Reid Hayden has installed insulation on over 500 ships, old and new, in the eight southern states in which they operate.

U. S. RUBBER INCREASES CAPACITY ASBESTOS FABRIC

United States Rubber Company will increase by 50% its capacity for the production of asbestos fabrics by expanding pany's textile division in Hogansville, Ga., according to their recent announcement.

The company some time ago developed a new method of spinning asbestos fabrics into fine yarns, and fabrics made from these yarns, known by the trade name "Asbeston", are extremely light in weight. This quality is said to make the product especially suitable for such uses as fire-fighting suits, air ducts for both the heating and de-icing of bombers and fighter planes, insulating tape for naval cable and electrical apparatus and other products used in the war. In some of these applications it replaces critical metals.

Many new and unusual applications for this type of asbestos textile are anticipated by the Company in the postwar market.

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THE RUBEROID CO. The Board of Directors on August 24th declared a dividend of 15c per share on the capital stock of the corporation, payable September 28 to stockholders of record on September 15th. Dividends of 15c per share were paid previously this year on March 26 and June 28.

THERMOID ACQUIRES STOKES RUBBER

Thermoid Company, Trenton, N. J., has just announced its acquisition of the Joseph Stokes Rubber Company, Trenton, and a subsidiary, the Joseph Stokes Rubber Company, Limited, Welland, Ont., Canada.

Under the plan, Thermoid obtains the Stokes Company thru 100% stock ownership. Thermoid's acquisition is subject to final audits which will not be completed until September 15th.

This unites two long established and well known Trenton industrial concerns. The Joseph Stokes Rubber Company, which manufactures hard rubber molded and plastic products, has been in business 50 years. Thermoid Company was established in 1880, and manufactures brake linings, clutch facings fan belts, radiator hose and other automotive replacement parts a complete line of industrial rubber products and tufted and woven rugs.

The addition of the Stokes plants will give Thermoid four separate factory locations: two in Trenton, N. J., the Southern Asbestos Division in Charlotte, N. C., and the Stokes plant at Welland, Canada.

In making the announcement, President Schluter of Thermoid said: "This acquisition will bring expanded opportunities for both Thermoid and Stokes Rubber. The Canadian subsidiary will be of great value. Thermoid has long desired a factory in Canada to produce its present line for both the automotive trade in Canada and for export to the British Dominions."

Thermoid sales for 1943 are at the rate of $16,000,000. Stokes Rubber sales at the rate of $4,000,000. Combined, they make the new organization perhaps the largest rubber company in the East.

RAYBESTOS ADVERTISES IN AVIATION PUBLICATIONS

The Raybestos Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., is now running full page, color, advertisements in "Aviation" and "Aero Digest," featuring Raybestos Aviation Friction Materials.

Raybestos is a large supplier of friction materials for heavy bombers—Liberators, Flying Fortresses, B-29's.

The purpose of the advertising in aviation magazines is to exploit in the aviation industry, the Raybestos reputation for quality and to prepare the way for Raybestos post-war products to be marketed in the aviation field thru the company's regular replacement channels.

LIBERTY SHIP SPONSORED BY ARMSTRONG CORK COMPANY

In recognition of its excellent performance and cooperation in erecting insulation materials on Liberty ships, the Armstrong Cork Company recently was asked to act as sponsor of the 121st Liberty Ship (the Joseph P. Bradley) launched by the Bethlehem-Fairfield yard at Baltimore.

Armstrong's Building Materials Division, thru its Baltimore Office, has supplied and erected under contract with the shipyard, hot and cold piping insulation, including asbestos materials and sundry products, for half the ships produced in the Bethlehem-Fairfield yard. Armstrong was the first subcontractor in the yard to be honored in this way.

The ship was christened by Mrs. Ellida Huhn, sister of Hilding Swanson, a member of the Armstrong pipe covering crew working at the yard.

Armstrong officials who attended the launching ceremony were: F. L. Suter, First Vice-President; H. R. Peck, Vice-President and General Manager of the Building Materials Division; S. C. Martin, Manager Industrial Insulation Department, in charge of construction; E. E. Tanguy, Baltimore District Office Manager; Guy Malambre and J. H. Covert of the Baltimore Building Materials Division Office.

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JOHNS-MANVILLE has been awarded the Army-Navy "E" at its Lompoc factory, for excellence of production, the presentation taking place on the afternoon of July 30th, in the presence of more than 100 J-M workers and their families.

The Lompoc plant, located on the site of the world's largest known deposit of diatomaceous earth, produces a variety of Celite products for the war program including high temperature insulations for ships and war factories, filter aids for the processing of foods, beverages and chemicals and fillers used in the manufacture of camouflage paints and other war products.

TRI-STATE ASBESTOS COMPANY, insulation engineers and erectors, have moved their operations from Evansville, Ind., to Knoxville, Tenn., and plan to make the latter point their permanent headquarters, according to Harry C. Green, official head of the company. Their street address at the new location is 1000 Davenport Road. They report sufficient contract work booked to keep them busy until next summer.

ASBESTOS CORPORATION LIMITED. Directors have declared the regular quarterly dividend of 20 cents a share, plus the usual bonus of 10 cents a share, payable September 30 to shareholders of record September 1st.

E. A. PHOENIX PROMOTED BY J-M

E. A. Phoenix, formerly in the Priorities Department of Johns-Manville Corporation, has recently been appointed Assistant Manager of the Transite Asbestos Pipe Department.

E. A. Phoenix

Mr. Phoenix began his business career with the Kieselguhr Company of America in 1915. This firm later became the Celite Products Company which became part of Johns-Manville Corporation in 1928. After serving in various sales and advertising positions, Mr. Phoenix was made Assistant Sales Promotion Manager in April, 1936. In May, 1942, because of his knowledge of the company's widely diversified product lines, he was transferred to the Priorities Department, a position which he held until his recent promotion.

Mr. Phoenix will serve as general assistant to C. A. McGinnis, Manager of the Transite Pipe Department, and will specialize in field sales and educational phases of the business.

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"BRAKES AND BRAKE PRODUCTS" by F. J. Laher, President Lasco Brake Products Corporation, appeared in the July 1943 issue of Motor Transportation, published in Seattle, Wash.

"KEEP THEM PUMPING," an article by J. O. Glenn, of the Worthington Pump and Machinery Corp., was published in the July issue of Power Plant Engineering, published in Chicago. The article should be of interest to makers and sellers of packings.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Asbestos Factbook—Much information about asbestos, in compact form—10c per copy.

Canadian Chrysotile Asbestos Classification (reprint)—25c per copy, or 15c ea. in quantities of 10 or more.

Twelve Estimating Tables with Chart. Convenient in figuring flange, fitting and other areas—$1.00 per set.

Manual of Unit Prices (for figuring pipe covering and blocks)—30c per copy postpaid, or 25c plus postage in quantities of ten or more.

Processing Asbestos Fibres (Reprint)—of interest to textile plant superintendents or foremen—25c per copy or 15c each in quantities of 25 or more.

Asbestos: The Magic Mineral, by Lilian Holmes Strack. Especially interesting to school children—$1.00 per copy.

Order any of the above from "ASBESTOS," 17th Fl., Inquirer Bldg., Philadelphia, 30, Pa.

PATENTS

This information obtained from the Official Patent Gazette, published weekly by the U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

Copies of patents can be obtained by sending 10c (in coin) to The Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C., giving the patent number, date it was issued, name of patentee and name of invention.

Process for coating Fibrous Sheets. No. 2,321,939. Granted June 15, 1943, to Robert G. Quinn, Bridgewater Township, Somerset Co., N. J. Assignor to Johns-Manville. Application July 3, 1940. Serial No. 343,716. Process for coating rigid fibre board. Further description upon request.

Process for making Cement Products. No. 2,322,194. Granted on June 15, 1943, to George D. King, Chicago, Ill. Assignor to United States Gypsum Co., Chicago. Application August 14, 1939. Serial No. 289,978. Description upon request.

Asbestos-Cement Pipe. No. 2,322,592. Granted on June 22, 1943, to Ernest Wayne Rembert, Plainfield, N. J., assignor to Johns-Manville, New York City. Application May 29, 1941. Series No. 395,712.

Pipe comprising a highly compressed hydrated asbestos and Portland cement composition in hardened condition, the proportion of asbestos being not less than 20 parts or more than 40 parts by weight to 100 parts dry weight of the asbestos and cement, and said product being characterized by a dry density of at least 108 lbs. per cubic foot.

Cement-Asbestos Shingle. No. 2,323,835. Granted on July 6, 1943, to Philip Mooney, Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Assignor to Medusa Portland Cement Co., Cleveland, Ohio. Application March 3, 1942. Serial number 433.120.

The method of making Cement-Asbestos Products containing a filler material, said method comprising controlling the setting or hardening of the products by using cement mill flue dust as the filler material.

Pipe Covering. No. 2,324,181. Granted on July 13, 1943, to Ture S. Tulien, Beverly Hills, Calif. Assignor to Johns-Manville Corporation, New York. Application September 11, 1940. Serial No. 356,264.

An insulated covering assembly for a pipe, said assembly comprising insulation surrounding the pipe, a casing surrounding said insulation and including hingedly connected semi-cylindrical sections having free overlapping edges, the hinge connecting said sections extending longitudinally of the pipe and a coupling member for said casing, the coupling member comprising a split sleeve having its longitudinal edges at the split retroverted to form outwardly turned flanges, the free edges of which gradually diverge, said flanges lying adjacent to and on opposite sides of said hinge and an attaching clamp com-

prising an elongated channeled member engaged over said flanges and having an interior width which gradually diverges in correspondence with the divergence of said flanges, whereby said flanges are drawn toward one another as said channeled member is moved longitudinally on said casing into attaching position.

Compressed and Densified Product. No. 2,326,516. Granted on August 10, 1943 to George B. Brown, Manville, N. J., assignor to Johns-Manville Corp., New York City. Application January 19, 1940, Serial No. 314,692.

An article of manufacture consisting of a heat insulating sheet having a high modulus of rupture and comprising asbestos fibers and a binder, the binder including the product of a substantially complete reaction under the influence of steam of an aqueous mixture of hydrated lime and finely divided silica, the fibres constituting at least half of the dry weight of the article and at least 50% of the fibers being amosite fibers, and said article having a dry density below 45 lbs. per cubic foot and a thermal conductivity of less than 1 when measured at a mean temperature of 100° F.

Method of Manufacturing Fibrous Insulation. No. 2,326,517. Granted on August 10, 1943, to George B. Brown, Martinsville, N. J., assignor to Johns-Manville Corporation. Original application January 19, 1940. Serial No. 314,692. Divided and this application January 16, 1941. Serial No. 374,703.

In making a bonded product having a high modulus of rupture and low thermal conductivity, the method which comprises forming an intimate mixture including Amosite fibres in large proportion, constituting at least 50% of the dry weight of the mixture, hydrated lime, finely divided diatomaceous earth and water, shaping and strongly compressing the mixture against a filtering member to expel a major portion of the water therefrom and produce densification, and then subjecting the compressed and shaped material to an elevated temperature while minimizing the evaporation of water to cause reaction between the lime and finely divided diatomaceous earth with the production of a binder for the fibres.

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Macy's Department Store in New York City has recently opened a department known as the Home Insulation Shop. Asbestos Pipe Covering, Asbestos Jackets for hot water tanks and Asbestos Millboard are among the items sold. The department will tell the home owner how to insulate or will actually install the materials. So far as we know, this is the first department store to carry and install asbestos insulation.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

THIS and THAT

In 1942 the national fire loss amounted to $315,000,000. In 1943, however, fire losses have increased to an alarming extent. Fire losses for the first seven months of 1943 are estimated at $215,530,000, an increase of over $24,000,000 when compared to the same period of 1942.

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"The Past," "The Present" and "The Future" will be effectively portrayed at the *50th* Annual Meeting of the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, to be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City, January 31, February 1 and 2, 1944. A special program is being developed to properly commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the organization. The Society was organized on September 10th, 1894.

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"No," said the 4-F man, "I can't get into the service, but I'm doing my full share by working 10 hours a day filling out government forms."

. . . —

Heat treatment of hollow steel propeller blades for various types of warplanes uses as the first hardening step the "normalizing" of the blade in a gas furnace at 1700° F., then the slow cooling of the blade in an *asbestos-lined* chamber. The purpose of the asbestos lining is to keep the temperature in the chamber at the proper level and prevent sudden cooling of the blade.

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In a recent surveying job it was found necessary to wrap the tripod legs of the level with a double layer of asbestos covered with canvas and coated with shellac. This prevented tripod twist caused by heat of the sun on even a portion of one of the legs.

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There are deposits of asbestos in Eritrea (formerly Ethiopa) but not worked commercially.

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KEEP PRICES DOWN—Use it up—Wear it out—Make it do—Or do without.

CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

As of September 10, 1943

Canadian—

	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b. Mine (In U. S. Funds)
Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1)	$650.00 to $750.00
Group No. 2 (Crude No. 2; Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry)	165.00 to 385.00
Group No. 3 (Spinning or Textile Fibre)	124.00 to 233.50
Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre)	62.50 to 82.50
Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre)	44.00 to 49.50
Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster)	33.00 to 34.00
Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts)	14.50 to 29.50

Vermont—

	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b. Hyde Park, Vt.
Shingle Fibres	$62.50 to $65.50
Paper Stock Fibres	44.00 to 54.00
Waste	33.00
Shorts	14.50 to 28.50
Floats	19.50

Note: Crude Run-of-Mine (Canadian) refers to a crude asbestos produced in certain mines where Crude Fibre is not graded into regular No. 1 and 2 Crude. Crude Sundry refers to certain odd lots of off grade material which do not conform to the regular standards of No. 1 Crude or No. 2 Crude.

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

(These figures are compiled from the Commercial and Financial Chronicle. No guarantee made as to their correctness.)

		August 1943		
	Par	Low	High	Last
Armstrong Cork Co. (Com.)	np	33⅞	38	38
Asbestos Corp. (Com.)	np	24½	25½	25
Celotex (Com.)	np	12⅜	13⅜	12⅞
Celotex (Pfd.)	20	18¼	19¾	18½
Certainteed (Com.)	1	5⅝	6⅜	5⅝
Certainteed (Pfd.)	100	52	57	54¼
Flintkote (Com.)	np	18	19⅞	19¾
Flintkote (Pfd.)	100	105	109	106½
Johns Manville (Com.)	np	79½	85¾	84¼
Johns-Manville (Pfd.)	100	130	134½	132¾
Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.)	np	24½	27	27
Ruberoid (Com.)	np	24	27⅜	26⅛
Thermoid (Com.)	1	7½	9⅛	8¾
Thermoid (Pfd.)	10	45	47½	46½
U. S. Gypsum (Com.)	20	67	70¾	70
U. S. Gypsum (Pfd.)	100	177	181	178½
U. S. Rubber (Com.)	10	39¼	43⅞	42½
U. S. Rubber (Pfd.)	100	123	128	127¾

EHRET'S VALLEY FORGE PACKINGS

Standardization by EHRET packing experts has produced a line of packings that has been held to a minimum number of items consistent with service, economy and good practice. Dealers and Distributors can materially reduce inventories and, at the same time, maintain stocks to cover a broad range of service requirements.

Details of the Ehret line of Valley Forge Packings are contained in a packing service manual. A copy will be sent to you on request.

EHRET MAGNESIA MANUFACTURING COMPANY

VALLEY FORGE • PENNSYLVANIA